IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph on page 2, lines 30-31 as follows:

FIG. 1 The figure shows a schematic representation of a preferred embodiment of an axial compressor according to the invention.

Amend the paragraph on page 3, lines 2-10 as follows:

Significant parts and functions of the axial compressor shown in FIG. 1 the figure have already been described in connection with the explanation of the state of the art. According to a preferred embodiment of the invention, in the axial compressor 1, water (H₂O) is supplied into the flow channel between rotor 2 and stator 3 by way of several nozzles 8 arranged on the circumference of the stator 3. The water supplied by way of the nozzles 8 forms a thin film of water on the inside of the stator 3 because of the airflow in the flow channel. This water film is in contact with boundary flow B and evaporated while cooling boundary flow B. The cooled boundary flow B is then available at outlet 6 as cooling air for the downstream gas turbine.

Please add the following text on page 3, after line 15:

LIST OF DESIGNATIONS

- 1 axial compressor
- 2 rotor
- 3 stator
- 4 running blade
- 5 guiding vane
- 6 outlet
- 7 place (main flow)
- 8 nozzle
- 9 axis
- 10 exit
- 11 entrance
- A main flow
- B boundary flow (cooling airflow)